

Enhancing Medicare's technical assistance to and oversight of providers

ISSUE: The Commission continues to be concerned about the slow pace of quality improvement and finds that Medicare has a responsibility to exercise its policy levers to accelerate improvement.

KEY POINTS: The Commission has explored whether policy levers other than payment policy—specifically, technical assistance and conditions of participation—can better complement the intent of payment policy and accelerate quality improvement. In consultation with experts in the field, stakeholders, and the Commission, we have developed several policy options intended to improve the effectiveness of current quality improvement programs and resources.

ACTION: Commissioners should review the material in preparation for discussion and votes on the draft recommendations at the April meeting.

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